

FOR INCLUSION IN CABLE TO DCI

OCA 88-3455

17 October 1988

~~But not DCI~~ DCI

You will be returning in the midst of an effort by the House and Senate to reconcile two drug bills so that they can finally adjourn. On 14 October, the Senate passed its version of omnibus, anti-drug legislation, sending it to the House which had earlier passed its own version. Major points of disagreement include the size and scope of the powers of the so-called "drug czar."

The Senate czar is vested with fairly broad powers in the budget and programmatic areas. His powers have been limited to some degree with respect to your authorities as Director of Central Intelligence and the bill does include an intelligence information protection provision. The House czar, on the other hand, has limited programmatic and fiscal powers but no intelligence information protection.

The chairmen of several House committees, led by Chairman Brooks of House Government Operations Committee, are attempting to weaken the Senate czar. Running parallel to this is an effort, which we are supporting, to fashion an "intelligence exception" to the czar's powers and duties, regardless of what they may finally be. The Administration's overall position is that nothing should be done on the czar issue until the next President can decide how he wishes to proceed.

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